

TRIBUTE TO BERT M. CONCKLIN

• Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to a patriot, federal servant, and industry leader, Bert M. Concklin. I have worked with him closely for nearly twenty years in his capacity as president of the Professional Services Council (PSC), as a representative of two of the largest employers in Virginia, PSC and Computer Sciences Corporation, and as a driving influence on numerous advisory panels.

After more than eight years with PSC, Bert has accepted the role of Business Systems Modernization Executive at the Internal Revenue Service. I admire his courageous willingness to tackle such an obvious challenge and I anticipate that he will, as always, perform exceedingly well. The agency is fortunate to acquire such a talented executive.

Throughout his career, Bert has proven himself to be an effective leader and an even-handed advocate. The fact that he has been such a dynamic leader for the professional and technical services industry, which is populated by so many of our nation's most innovative names, has in no small way made our jobs in the United States Senate that much easier. Those companies represent the very heart of our national defense and I know that Bert's dedication originates in large part from a love of our country that I share. Perhaps this trait comes from his days at the United States Naval Academy, but I suspect he had it even before.

Bert is no stranger to federal service. During his many years of service with the federal government he has held a number of distinguished positions including, Assistant Secretary and Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration; Deputy Administrator for Policy Evaluation for the Federal Energy Administration; Administrator of Price Controls for the Cost of Living Council; and Director of Information Systems with the Office of Management and Budget. He has also held significant special assignments including membership on the FAA Blue Ribbon Advisory Committee.

I wish every success to Mr. Concklin as he starts the next chapter of his truly remarkable career and thank him for a job exceedingly well done.●

DUKES CELEBRATE 50TH ANNIVERSARY

• Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, it is my pleasure to congratulate The Rev. and Mrs. Morgan Dukes of Summerville, S.C. who recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. During the past 50 years, Morgan and Marie Dukes have lived throughout South Carolina and in Washington, D.C. After Morgan graduated from the Southern Baptist Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, the couple moved to Bath, S.C. where Morgan led the congregation at

First Baptist Church. He served as Director of Religious Activities at Furman University from 1958-1965 and then as pastor of First Baptist Church in Walhalla.

In 1970, Morgan and Marie moved to Washington, D.C., where Morgan was pastor of Brookland Baptist Church and later joined the staff of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs. For 15 years Marie worked as a secretary in the office of the Dean of the College of Engineering at the University of Maryland, College Park. They returned to South Carolina in 1990 to assist homeless men at the Star Gospel Mission in Charleston, a position from which Morgan retired in 1997. Marie worked for 10 years as a realtor in Summerville.

The Dukes have accomplished a great deal in their 50 years of marriage and have enriched many communities in South Carolina and here in our nation's capital. Peatsy and I join with their friends and family, including their children Vicki, Betty Ann and David and granddaughter, Lauren, in celebrating this important milestone in their life together.●

SALUTING LOUISIANA'S COLLEGE ATHLETES

• Mr. BREAUX. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the baseball teams at Louisiana State University, LSU, and the University of Louisiana-Lafayette, ULL, the LSU women's track team and all Louisiana student-athletes.

If there is one thing Louisianians take as seriously as our politics and cooking, it is our athletics. In fact, Louisiana has an excellent tradition when it comes to producing great athletes. This is easily demonstrated in the number of athletes from Louisiana who have played or currently play professional sports.

Sports teaches us the importance of teamwork, goal-setting and determination. It also teaches us to never give up, even when faced with seemingly insurmountable odds.

No one has to tell the University of Louisiana-Lafayette's baseball team about perseverance and defying the odds. They had to defeat the nation's number one ranked team twice in one day to get to the College World Series. But once there, they defied expectations by posting a respectable two wins and two losses, and etched the mascot "Ragin' Cajuns" into the vocabulary of every college baseball fan.

Teams at LSU have also applied the lessons taught in athletics, as well as Yogi Berra's oft-repeated truism "it ain't over till it's over," to become one of the finest athletic programs in the country.

The LSU baseball team, after starting the season 6-0, struggled to a 6-5 record in their first 11 games. But, with the help of tremendous senior leadership, self-confidence and the will to win, LSU finished strong by ending the season with an outstanding 52-17 record

and their fifth national championship in nine years.

And the LSU women's track team is no stranger to dramatic finishes, either. Down 46 points on the final day of competition, they scored just enough points on a winning performance in the final event to win their 12th NCAA outdoor championship in 14 years.

In all, LSU had one of its finest athletic years ever during the 1999-2000 season. Outside of these two national titles, a total of 11 teams finished in the nation's top 10 in their respective sports.

This year's two national championships gives LSU a total of 35 national championships, the most of any school in the Southeastern Conference. And of the 20 sports LSU sponsors on the varsity level, 14 finished the year in the nation's top 25 and participated in NCAA championship events.

I salute the student-athletes who have helped make Louisiana one of the finest states for collegiate athletics in the country. And I especially congratulate the LSU baseball and women's track teams who have proved once again it isn't how you start the game that matters, but how you finish. It is this value that will transcend the playing field to make Louisiana's student-athletes champions in the biggest game of all—the game of life.●

TRIBUTE TO ALICE M. MCCUE

• Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I am delighted to rise today to pay tribute to a well-respected and remarkable public servant, Ms. Alice M. McCue, who has worked for the Department of Veterans Affairs Regional Office in Hartford since 1945. On June 25th, the Department of Veterans Affairs will recognize her 55 years of service to our nation's veterans, and I want to take a few moments to discuss Alice McCue's remarkable career.

Alice started working for the VA following her graduation from high school at Mt. St. Joseph Academy in Hartford. She began in 1945 as a typist in the Communications and Records Section, and moved to the Administrative Division in 1949. Between 1950 and 1978, Alice held a number of different positions, including several years as a clerk in the office of the Chief Attorney. Since that time, Alice has been a Veterans Claims Examiner.

Alice has been a constant force since her first days of employment. Her hard work and dedication to the veterans of Connecticut have earned her a number of awards and special accommodations. Alice received five Special Contribution Awards over the past several years, as well as a Time-Off Award in 1995, the same year in which she was the recipient of a Superior Performance Award.

Over the years, Alice was involved in a plethora of activities at the VA's Hartford office and became an integral component of every project in which she was engaged. In the State Income